

## General Assembly

February Session, 2000

Raised Bill No. 5631

LCO No. 1502

Referred to Committee on Government Administration and Elections

Introduced by: (GAE)

## An Act Concerning Electronic Filing Of Campaign Finance Statements By Certain Candidate Committees And Political Committees.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- Section 1. Subsections (b) and (c) of section 9-348ee of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:
- 3 (b) On and after January 1, [1999] 2001, the campaign treasurer of 4 the candidate committee for each candidate for nomination or election 5 to the office of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, State Comptroller, State Treasurer, [or] Secretary of the State, state 6 senator or state representative who raises or spends [two hundred 8 fifty] ten thousand dollars or more during an election campaign and 9 the campaign treasurer of each political committee that raises or 10 spends ten thousand dollars or more in a calendar year shall file in 11 electronic form all financial disclosure statements required by said 12 section 9-333j by either transmitting disks, tapes or other electronic 13 storage media containing the contents of such statements to the office 14 of the Secretary of the State or transmitting the statements on-line to

said office. Each such campaign treasurer shall use either (1) a software program created by the Secretary of the State under subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of this section, for all such statements filed on or after [January 1, 1999] said date, or (2) another software program which provides for the standard reporting format, and complies with the specifications, which are prescribed by the secretary under subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section, for all such statements filed on or after [July 1, 1999] said date. The office of the Secretary of the State shall accept any statement that uses any such software program. Once any such candidate committee has raised or spent [two hundred fifty] fifteen thousand dollars or more during an election campaign, all previously filed statements required by said section 9-333j, which were not filed in electronic form shall be refiled in such form, using such a software program, not later than the date on which the campaign treasurer of the committee is required to file the next regular statement under said section 9-333j.

(c) On and after January 1, [1999] 2001, (1) the campaign treasurer of the candidate committee for any other candidate, as defined in section 9-333a, who is required to file the financial disclosure statements required by section 9-333j with the office of the Secretary of the State and (2) the campaign treasurer of any other political committee or party committee, may file in electronic form any financial disclosure statements required by said section 9-333j. Such filings may be made by either transmitting disks, tapes or other electronic storage media containing the contents of such statements to the proper authority under section 9-333e or transmitting the statements on-line to such proper authority. Each such campaign treasurer shall use either (A) a software program created by the Secretary of the State under subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of this section, for all such statements filed in electronic form on or after [January 1, 1999] said date, or (B) another software program which provides for the standard reporting format, and complies with the specifications, which are prescribed by the secretary under subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section, for all such statements filed in electronic form on or after [July 1, 1999]

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- 49 <u>said date</u>. The proper authority under section 9-333e shall accept any
- 50 statement that uses any such software program.
- Sec. 2. This act shall take effect January 1, 2001, and shall apply to
- 52 elections held after said date.

## Statement of Purpose:

To require the electronic filing of campaign finance statements by (1) candidates for state-wide office and the General Assembly who raise or spend at least ten thousand dollars in a campaign and political committees that raise or spend at least ten thousand dollars in a calendar year.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]